

Fe-bearing Crystalline Silicate Around Vega-like Star?

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We have observed the 8–13 μm spectrum ($R = 250$) of the Vega-like star candidate HD 145263 using Subaru/COMICS. The spectrum of HD 145263 shows a broad trapezoidal silicate feature with shoulders at 9.3 and 11.44 μm , indicating the presence of crystalline silicate grains. This detection implies that crystalline silicate may also be commonly present around Vega-like stars. The 11.44 μm feature is shifted to a longer wavelength compared to the usual 11.2–11.3 μm crystalline forsterite feature detected toward Herbig Ae/Be stars and T Tauri stars. Although the peak shift due to the effects of the grain size can not be ruled out, we suggest that Fe-bearing crystalline olivine can explain the observed peak wavelength fairly well. Fe-bearing silicates are commonly found in meteorites and most interplanetary dust particles, which originate from planetesimal-like asteroids. According to studies of meteorites, Fe-bearing silicate must have been formed in asteroidal planetesimals. Hence the presence of Fe-bearing crystalline silicate grains around HD 145263 could be mineralogical evidence that dust grains around Vega-like stars are indeed of planetesimal origin.

